corresponding plurality of pulses of the laser light are sequentially generated by a main emission procedure in the case where an object is not detected as a result of the immediately-preceding preliminary emission. On the other hand, the transmission signal of the Q-bit pseudo noise code (for example, the 15-chip maximum length code) is outputted from the signal generation circuit 40 and hence a corresponding plurality of pulses of the laser light are sequentially generated by a main emission procedure in the case where an object is detected as a result of the immediately-preceding preliminary emission. The sequence of pulses of the laser light which corresponds to the Q-bit pseudo noise code (for example, the 15-chip maximum length code) less adversely affects human eyes.

Eighth Embodiment

An eighth embodiment of this invention is similar to the sixth embodiment thereof except for a design change mentioned hereafter. In the eighth embodiment of this invention, as shown in Fig. 11, the power of the laser light generated by preliminary emissions and main emission procedures remains equal to a predetermined fixed level.

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Ninth Embodiment

A ninth embodiment of this invention is similar to the seventh embodiment thereof except for a design change mentioned hereafter. In the ninth embodiment of this invention, as shown in Fig. 12, the power of the laser light generated by preliminary emissions and main emission procedures remains equal to a predetermined fixed level.